

CONGRESS.

The Senate was not session yesterday. In the House of Representatives, Mr. Clingman introduced a resolution providing for the election of a Speaker by a plurality vote, which, after debate, was laid upon the table by four majority.

A CARD.

There is nothing more repugnant to one who has been endowed with even ordinary sensibilities, than a parade of himself before the public. I have studiously avoided this, for the reason that I thought it unbecoming to speak of my past or present relation to the United States Senate. I desired, and still desire, that relation to be preserved or severed, as may seem best to that body. I sought the responsible position which I occupy to it, by no unworthy means. I desire to preserve it by none. It ceases to be valuable to me, or of use to my political friends, when it must be retained by a compromise of either my political or personal integrity. Both of these I have striven to maintain intact.

But when the continuance of this relation to the first and most august body in the world is made a subject of severe and general animadversion, throughout the country—when his Excellency the President of the United States has conceived the "harmony of the Democratic party," to hang upon the issue of the election of printer to the Senate of the United States, and has used his official power, as well as his personal influence to supplant the present incumbent—I may be excused for this and other reasons, to which I shall refer, if in justice to myself, and the first men in the Democratic party, who supported me before, and may be willing to support me again, I shall say a few words to prevent any misconception of my present embarrassing position.

This position has been peculiarly embarrassing to me. It has been so, because I know that I have kind and generous friends who feel perhaps more than they should that their personal esteem for and relations to me incline them to disregard and override this unusual exaction of Executive behest. They have their respective political responsibilities which must govern their action. They cannot object to my exercising the same right, not as Printer of the Senate, but as the proprietor and editor of an independent Democratic State Rights paper, the principles of whose course they have themselves endorsed. The object of this card is to make a frank statement of my position, so that they may act advisedly when they will vote upon this question.

I was elected Printer to the Senate for the Thirty-third Congress. I was certainly not elected because I was an adept in the art of printing. I was elected simply and purely because I was the founder, proprietor, and editor of a public journal which had for its object, and from the pursuit of which, it has never varied or departed, the single purpose of advocating the principles of the genuine State Rights Democratic party. My enterprise was conceived in no spirit of capriciousness, as has been charged. It was not conducted as the vehicle of speculations and speculations upon the public press, as was charged by men of the unprincipled and seditious sheets throughout the whole country. This last regard it will even compare well with the immaculate morality of the Washington Union.

I thought, and others wiser than I thought, the time had come when the power of the Central Government was becoming unduly strong, and that the sovereignty of the States was being infringed, if not actually weakened, by its exercise. This was one of my objects in establishing the Washington Sentinel, and it is due to candor to say, that I did look to one of the two legislative branches to aid me in this mission. If, in my ardent honesty and faithfully to carry out this purpose, I have overstepped the legitimate bounds of party discipline, I may at least claim to have had the approbation and endorsement of the most prominent men in that party, as well as a very large portion of the party itself. It seems, however, that such a violation of discipline is now construed into a distraction of the "harmony of the Democratic party," and that the President of the United States deems the election of Printer the turning point in his own political fortunes. Under these circumstances, I say to those friends who have so kindly and firmly stood by me, and who have sought in my election to vindicate their own, and my political course, that, if such a test is made, I am no party to it, and consider them released from any further support of me. For many reasons I prefer a change of Administration, and I shall use all my exertion and employ what little influence I may have to the accomplishment of that end. It is not necessary here to state the considerations that have weighed with me, if for no other reason than that they are already pretty well understood. I have no recantations to make, and would not, therefore, make one against my reason and conscience for all the patronage of both ends of the Avenue. I have thought thus much to be due to my friends, and now I shall leave the matter with more indifference, because I feel that I have done my duty to myself and to them.

In conclusion, I may assume that I have performed all the duties of my office faithfully and to the entire satisfaction of the Senate, since I have not only neither heard a complaint, but have received, very often, the most obliging compliments upon the manner in which they have been discharged.

I have discharged, furthermore, in my political position, if not ably, at least conscientiously and consistently, all my duties to my party without variances or a shadow of turning, and, for the truth of this assertion, I refer to the record of the political journal which has been under my control.

BEVERLEY TUCKER.

WASHINGTON, January 30, 1856.

THE ICE CROP.—It is estimated that upwards of one hundred thousand tons of ice have been collected in the different storehouses at Philadelphia.

PRINTER TO THE SENATE.

For the last time, we hope, we occupy the columns of this paper with this subject.

The Senate, in the last Congress, elected BEVERLEY TUCKER its Printer. It is admitted that he has faithfully discharged the duties of that office. In the present Congress, no Printer having been elected, and the Senate having occasion to have documents printed, no attempt was made to offer any other party to the consideration of the Senate to do this work—he was accepted unanimously, no one objecting to his competency, or making any charge of former neglect. His capacity and fidelity have, therefore, been unanimously endorsed by the Senate, at its present session. The curious inquiry arises, why was not the Printer continued in office during good behavior, as were the other officers of the Senate? Why, at least, when a chaplain was nominated and elected in open Senate, was not the Printer also nominated and elected in the same way? But if the unusual mode of nomination of Printer in caucus, by the Senate, was to be made, why was it not promptly made in the beginning of the session; or, as provision is already made by which the printing of the Senate will be certainly and properly done, why any necessity to nominate at all; and, above all, why is it indispensable that it shall be done to-day?

We will endeavor to explain, so far as may be proper, the seemingly inexplicable course in regard to the Senate Printer.

The proprietor of the Union was elected Printer to the House for the last Congress. The Albany Atlas, a paper then fully endorsed by the Union, thus reveals the *quo modo*.

"A small number of members met in caucus, and placed him (the proprietor of the Union) in nomination. Others of the Democratic members refused to participate in the meeting, and without their concurrence the election of the administration candidate was deemed exceedingly uncertain. What was to be done? The refractory members were evoked, and a distinguished gentleman, of this State, was authorized to assure them, in the most solemn manner, both on behalf of the President and General Nicholson, that in no event should the Nebraska Kansas bill be made a party test, nor should support of, or opposition to, the bill, in any wise affect the standing of the person with the Administration or the Democratic party. THE PLEDGE WAS ACCEPTED. THE ELECTION WAS MADE."

This same paper, "the Union," whose proprietor and editor stands principal in the above alleged bargain, denounced those Democratic Senators who voted for the Printer elected to the last Senate in preference to the proprietor of the Union, edited by the General Nicholson of the above charged contract. It read them out of the party as recalcitrant. This same paper which made the above alleged bargain, still holds them excommunicated by its denunciations unreluctant.

The odor of the above bargain reached the nostrils of these same Senators, and, if additional evidence had been needed to convince them of its unsoundness, would have proved conclusive, the charge being made by a witness endorsed by the Union—being repeated and re-repeated, and never contradicted.

At the last Congress, Senators suspecting the soundness of the Union, proposed a caucus, that a searching examination might be made to confirm or refute these suspicions. A very ardent friend of the Union suggested that a caucus nomination for Printer was unusual, and thus defeated the attempt. Hence those Senators had no alternative, but to secure, as best they could, a Printer, exempt from the heresies of which the Union was suspected. Hence the fulminations of the Union and the excommunication of Senators.

But, now, that these surmises have become revealed facts, needing neither ghost nor caucuses to make them known, the tactics are changed. Instead of the open Senate election which was sought last Congress to stifle inquiry into the orthodoxy of the Union—now that the facts are undeniable, this same Union shrinks from the trial of open day, and seeks by caucus to smother discussion, and to force those very Senators, whom it has excommunicated, to vote for it, now that their suspicions of its heresies stand fully revealed and confirmed. See the state of affairs. Certain Senators, who refused to support the Union because of their mere suspicions, are required, now that all their suspicions are fully confirmed, to vote for it, and a caucus is held to coerce them to do this. No alternative is to be allowed—*aut Nicholson, aut Nullus*.

It may seem strange that such a thing can be possible—but the long delay in bringing it about may suggest how many contrivances were necessary to mature this monstrous injustice. What magician it is who has so diligently, and, as he may suppose, has so successfully worked the wires, it is not for us to suggest—some more familiar hand may raise the veil from this prophet of Khorazin.

We have spoken of the Printer to the Senate of the last Congress, only as Printer. This fact is most undeniable—that as mere Printer to the Senate, in competition with the present acting Printer, the proprietor of the Union is nowhere. There would be no contest. His merits, therefore, which entitle him to such favor as to have the present Printer ostracized for his benefit, must be sought for elsewhere.

What are they? Where are they? What service has the Union rendered to the Democratic party? What service has it rendered to anybody, and in what way? To whom have these services been rendered, and in what do they consist?

Is there one single member of the caucus who will openly avow that he stands by and approves the record of the Union? Not one. Is there one single member of that caucus who will not for himself and for the Democratic party disavow the record of the Union? Not one. We speak only of cardinal matters, and not of incidental and immaterial matters.

In regard to the record of the Sentinel, we ask which of all the Democratic Senators disapprove of the record of the Sentinel on cardinal and material matters? If any, who? And let him who can, put his finger on those portions of the Sentinel, and say to the Democratic party, "Of these I disapprove." We ask, if the columns of the Union do not show a record so defaced by contradictions, erasures, corrections, interlineations, expurgations, obliterations, and inconsistencies, as to render it illegible, or if legible, unintelligible; or, if intelligible, what a blasting record for the Democratic party to adopt as its rubric!

We have shown that it is not on his merits

as Printer, that HE of the Union relies to oust a Democrat admitted to be orthodox. We now ask, does the comparison we have made, (and let him who can, Daguerre a trader) of the political merits of the two, entitle him of the Union to the preference of a Democratic Senate? Aside from the merits or demerits of the Sentinel, are the Democrats of the Senate prepared to go before the party and the country, endorsing the Union as the fairest and best record which the Democratic party can present?

Why is it that Senators, avowedly approving the course of the Sentinel as a Democratic record, and disapproving the course of the Union, can yet reconcile it to themselves to repudiate the record they themselves approve, and select and honor a record they openly condemn? In going before the Democratic party, in this issue, which portion of the Democratic Senators will have national approval? They who repudiate a faithful officer and a clean record to adopt an officer with no superior claims as such, and with a record that no Democratic Senator will endorse? What mysterious power works these mysterious moves! Who will lift the veil?

How can Senators elect to office, and honor, the principal to the alleged Atlas bargain?

Why has not this charge been met, and refutation made? Why not postpone until it be done, the elevation of the actor, until at least his skirts be cleansed of this; and then let him be elected on his merits, and the merits of his record, if he can be.

Is it not harsh to require honorable Senators to approve and endorse a paper which has denounced and excommunicated them—to approve and select a paper, confessedly guilty of the errors charged by them on it? What excuse could they give for supporting it? And yet they are required to do that, and no alternative allowed them.

It may well be a subject for consideration as to which party can best justify themselves before the nation—that which refuses to compromise itself by the support of a party convicted of the heresies alleged—or a party which insists that the others shall support that very guilty party, and none other, and to do so shall sacrifice one with whom there is no fault.

Thus stands the record of the Printer.

The newspapers of the country contain so much on the subject of the organization of the House of Representatives, and indeed we have ourselves so often found it necessary to write on the same subject, that we always approach it with reluctance. But so long as the disorganization of the House continues, so long does it remain an open subject for newspaper paragraphs.

If the House is not sickened at the waste of time and money involved in the protracted contest for Speaker, the whole country is. It is becoming insufferable.

Votes which have been taken recently on various propositions, show that those who style themselves anti-Nebraska men are in the majority. On that majority rests the responsibility of the long continued failure to organize.

While the Democratic party has thus far maintained its organization, and kept its candidate in the field, hoping, by so doing, with the aid of the scattered conservative elements in the House, to secure a conservative organization, it begins to be a question whether it is not losing the benefits it would derive in the opening Presidential campaign, from the excesses into which the Black Republicans would plunge, if they should be allowed to organize the House on Free soil principles.

Some of the staunchest Democrats have, from the first, inclined to the opinion that it would be better for the Democratic party and for the country, if the opposition would make an election of Speaker. The question for the Democratic party to decide is, which will profit it most, the indefinite continuance of the present condition of things, or a Free soil organization.

This question we leave to the decision of Democrats of the House. They are better able to decide it than ourselves, and on them rests the responsibility of the decision.

While the snow has been unacceptable to most persons, it has afforded much pleasure to the owners of fast horses, and to those who love sleighing. The finest sleighing ground that any city can boast of is Pennsylvania avenue, and for the last three weeks its merits as such have been amply tested. All day long the merry sounds of sleigh bells enliven it. But it is in the afternoon that it presents its most lively and attractive appearance. As if by common consent, all who can produce any thing at all resembling a sleigh, whether it be a wheelbarrow, a box, a barrel, or what not, meet on the avenue, and race up and down until night comes on. The most grotesque turnouts may sometimes be seen. It is hard to say whether the fast horses, the slow horses, or the mules afford most entertainment to the numerous ladies, gentlemen, and children who crowd the sidewalks to look on.

We call the attention of our readers to the dramatic reading, at the Odd Fellows' Hall, on to-morrow evening, by Lewis F. Thomas, esq. Judging from the extracts of the tragedy to be read (Cortez the Conqueror), published in the Spectator we may safely predict a rare intellectual treat to Mr. Thomas's audience.

ALL SORTS OF MINDS.—There is a strong disposition among men of opposite minds to despise each other. A grave man cannot conceive what is the use of wit in society; a person who takes a sound common-sense view of the subject is for pushing out by the head and shoulders an ingenious theorist, who catches at the slightest and faintest analogies; and another man, who scents the ridiculous from afar, will hold no commerce with him who tests exquisitely the fine feelings of the heart, and is alive to nothing else; whereas talent is talent, and mind is mind, in all its branches! Wit gives to life one of its best flavors; common sense leads to immediate action, and gives society its daily motion; large and comprehensive views cause its annual rotation; ridicule chastises folly and imprudence and keeps men in their proper sphere; subtlety seizes hold of the fine threads of truth; analogy darts away in the most sublime discoveries; feeling paints all the exquisite passions of man's soul, and rewards him, by a thousand inward visitations for the sorrows that come from without. God made it all. It is all good! We must despise no sort of talent; they all have their separate duties and uses; all the happiness of man for his object; they all improve, exalt and gladden life.

[Sidney Smith.]

GOVERNOR REEDER AND THE PRESIDENT'S KANSAS MESSAGE.

As a part of the history of the Times, we publish the following letter of Governor Reeder in reply to the President's late Kansas message. The Governor makes many promises. He boasts that at the proper time he will amply vindicate himself and his constituents. He may be equal to the task, but if so, he will prove himself to be more than mortal. We regard his course as indefensible.

WASHINGTON CITY, January 25.

The special message of the President of the United States, communicated yesterday to Congress, assumed the form of a personal appeal, but also my constituents, whom inclination as well as duty imperiously demands of me to justify and protect. Entirely satisfied with the course adopted up to this time by the people of Kansas—convinced that it has been dictated by a desire to preserve the peace, the reputation of our country—knowing that it has, at every stage, been characterized by the most conservative moderation and laudable regard for the rights of others—having seen at every step the plainest manifestations of an anxious desire to avoid even the semblance of encroachment or aggression, I should be false to every manly impulse and every sense of duty if I allowed the aspersion of the message to pass unnoticed.

Unless the message shall incite and stimulate new invasions of our Territory and fresh outrages upon our citizens, it will produce to us no regret, as it has caused no surprise. After having seen our people trampled on, oppressed and robbed on the one hand by the invaders of their soil, and on the other by the influence of the authority, and the officers of the present administration; after having witnessed the cold blooded murder of an unarmed and unoffending citizen by an officer of the Administration, who is not only unmolested by the law, but is promoted by the President who appointed him, but who has been characterized by his official conduct, and enhanced his chances of promotion by the act, it is not at all surprising that we should, by the head of that Administration, be misrepresented and perverted. After having seen the Chief Magistrate during the organized invasions of our Territory, unmolested by the law, and in the favor of an unoffending people, innocent of wrong, and laboring only to carry out faithfully for themselves the doctrine of self-government, and to build up and extend the greatness of our country; after having seen our invaders coming upon us armed (without reproach, if not with the sanction of the Governor of Virginia, by the arsenals of the United States, established by a system of martial law over life and property, regulated only by the uncontrolled will of vindictive and irresponsible men—a system under which life was taken and property destroyed; the highways obstructed; travellers seized, and detained; and the pursuits of life paralyzed; the destruction of life and property of whole settlements threatened and actually intended—backed up by the sanction and authority of the federal officers, who pledge publicly the co-operation of the President, and all based upon the fact that a man encouraged, perhaps aided, by his friends, had made his escape from an arrest by a constable's peace officer, after having taken our national property and legal protectors joining in the most atrocious measures of oppression and wrong, it is no matter of surprise to see misrepresentations of our position and our objects emanating from the same source.

"This is not a mode nor the time in which to discuss the merits of the message. Expecting, as I have a right to expect, from the necessity of the exclusive title I am prepared to show, that I shall enjoy a seat and a voice in the House, I am willing patiently to abide my time." At the proper time and place, however, I pledge myself to meet and expose the misstatements of facts and the errors of law and logic which it contains. I will show that the thing is nothing but cold calumny and insult in the request of an appropriation to pay an expense to prevent the people of Kansas from the commission of outrage and treason. I will show that the movement for State government is misapplied to the facts of its origin and progress, and that we have done no wrong, and that the sanction of the President has been under the sanction of the precepts and examples of all the great men of the country for the last fifty years—of the legislation of Congress and the action of the Executive in repeated and well considered cases, and in statements of opinion of a high and distinguished Attorney General, and of the Secretary of the Executive Department; it is to be regretted the President did not consult before the delivery of the message.

"If it is illegality and incipient treason for a State to be formed with an enabling act of Congress, and for the United States Senators of the United States to hold their seats, and for the States to stand in this Union by virtue of illegal and treasonable proceedings—that Congress has sanctioned revolution, illegality, and treason, again and again; and that the rank and obnoxious weed has ever flourished in the ranks of the Executive Department; and, having indicated my own course, with the utmost confidence of success, proceed to the minor and secondary task of vindicating myself in such manner, I trust, as to show the attack to have been ill-advised and unfortunate."

As to the discussion in the message of the points involved in the contested seat of David C. Reeder, the Governor of Kansas, I will meet them when the case is heard; and as the House is the sole constitutional judge of the qualifications of its own members, I trust that the minds of members may be kept open and unprejudiced until they shall hear the law and the facts of the case, and that whether the disqualification of facts and the points involved in the case has been made because they were incidental to another subject, or aimed and intended to prejudice my claim, I hope, in either case, that both sides may be heard before a decision.

This hasty note has swelled to an unprofitable length, and the subject is only to solicit from the House and the people a more judicious judgment as to the position and action of our people, as to my right to a seat, and as to the charges against me in the message until I can be heard.

Very respectfully, yours,

A. H. REEDER.

EFFECTS OF THE WEATHER ON WILD DUCKS.

—A late number of the Richmond Dispatch contains the following paragraph:

"Several sportsmen left this city last Thursday on a ducking expedition, and after traveling a few miles down the river, came to the mouth of a creek, where the water formed a cove of seventy or eighty yards, and was not covered with ice. In this hole was a large number of ducks, and the hunters, on seeing them, let loose with their double barrels and killed several, but to their surprise the remainder did not fly. They raised loaded up, banged away, each man killed his bird, but the live ones still refused to fly, they then undertook to discover the cause of their gentleness, supposing that by possibility they were tame, when on examining one of the dead birds they found that its wing feathers were completely loaded with ice that the poor things could neither fly nor swim. Finding this disposition to butcher 'huddled' ducks, and finding the weather too severe to remain in it a great while, they gathered up about twenty of the slain, and made tracks for home."

A RIPE OLD AGE.—The oldest journal in England, the *Age*, on the 8th instant, attained the respectable age of two hundred years. For upwards of one hundred years this journal has been uninterruptedly in the possession of the family of its present publishers, Johannes Enschede & Co.

[Sidney Smith.]

Letter from Florida.

A letter dated Key West, January 21, says:

By a boat from Miami, we learn that the Indians have commenced their indiscriminate slaughter of the whites by murdering two of the settlers 12 miles from Fort Dallas. Two men—Peter Johnson and Edward Farrall—were killed by them on the 7th. The U. S. troops were sent in pursuit of them, but after scouring the country for several days they could not succeed in falling in with them. The settlers were in great trepidation, and were coming in demanding the protection of the troops.

The U. S. transport schooner Delaware, Johnson, arrived from Philadelphia with materials destined for the new light house at Quibito Island. On account of the Indian disturbances the erection of this new light is postponed, and the materials of the Delaware will be sold here.

The U. S. coast survey schooner George Henry, S. A. Wainwright, commandant, sailed on the 19th inst. for Cape Sable.

The U. S. sloop of war Cyane, Capt. A. B. Fairfax, arrived the 14th inst. from a cruise. She remains in port until the 25th. The officers and crew of both vessels are well.

The U. S. coast survey schooner Varina, Lieut. O. H. Berryman, arrived from Norfolk the 15th; and sailed the 18th for Tampa Bay.

More Muscle and Less Algebra.

A writer in "Life Illustrated," says of the present "seven hours school system" prevailing in some portions of the country:

"Oh, teachers! let us have more muscle, if less algebra, broader shoulders and deeper chests; straighter back-bone and stronger limbs; fuller cheeks and sounder stomachs, even though these should be purchased with the loss of a little 'learning!' Bear in mind—many, most of the greatest, wisest and best—men that ever lived had scarcely any of the learning of the schools; while no man ever lived greatly and completely whose physical system was unsound at the core. Let the children run. Let them expand their chest, and their hearts, too, in the open air. Give them a long frolic in the playground in the afternoon."

PRESENT TO GOV. WISE.—A correspondent of the Baltimore Star, writing from Washington, says:

"A superb picture, representing the marriage of Pocahontas, has been executed and framed, and is to-day on exhibition. The following is its inscription: 'Presented to his Excellency Henry A. Wise, Governor of Virginia, by the gentlemen in the Sixth Auditor's Office of the Post Office Department.' The top is surmounted with a beautiful spread eagle in gold; at each end a shield, and at the bottom the coat of arms of the State. The picture is three and three-quarters by four feet in size, and will be presented at an early day after its inauguration."

FEEDING TIME.—In England the hour of dining indicates precisely the rank. The Queen dines at eight o'clock, p. m.; the higher nobility at seven and half past; the ordinary country gentlemen at six; the professional people and the middle classes at five; the shopkeepers at four or five; the clerks at three or four; the clerks at two; the working men at twelve. As a man rises in social importance, his dinner hour advances. Some men of humble origin and great luck have eaten their way from plebeian twelve all down the hours of the afternoon, and ending a glorious career by solemnly dining with the nobility; splendid reward for the labors of a lifetime!

CONSUMPTION.—Dr. Marshall Hall, an eminent English physician, says:

"If I were seriously ill of consumption, I would live out of doors day and night, except in rainy weather or mid-winter; then I would sleep in an unplastered log-house." He says that consumptive men want air, not physic—pure air, not medicated air—plenty of meat and bread, and a man rises in social importance, his dinner hour advances. Some men of humble origin and great luck have eaten their way from plebeian twelve all down the hours of the afternoon, and ending a glorious career by solemnly dining with the nobility; splendid reward for the labors of a lifetime!

PHYSIC AND CONSUMPTION, gaspings for air cannot cure you; monkey cures is a gymnasium cannot cure you, and stimulants cannot cure you."

SMITH'S SWALLOWING A RED HOT POKER.

On the 23d of December, a man in the prime of life entered the Grantham Arms, a street, and having called for a pipe, sat down moodily by the fire. After sitting thus for ten minutes, the man put a poker into the fire, and when it had become red hot took it out, and knocked it against the floor to remove any excessiveness on it. He then deliberately put the red hot end of the poker down his throat, and the persons present caught hold of him, and having removed the poker from his possession, bathed his mouth with warm water. The man was ultimately removed to the Mendicity Office, where every attention was shown him, and, in answer to inquiries as to the cause of the rash act, he did not know what he was doing. His tongue, throat, and under lip were much burnt from the effects of which he died last Friday.—*Leeds (Eng.) Mercury*.

MOSAIC RUGS.—An Englishman has obtained a patent for placing a thick pile carpet on the back or underside of mosaic rugs. These beautiful rugs have their separate colored pieces pasted with a solvent of India rubber; the backing of a thick pile of carpet renders the India rubber solvent less susceptible of becoming stiff in cold weather, because it is thus placed between woolen substances, which are good non-conductors.

HAVE YOU EVER READ THE BIBLE ENTIRELY THROUGH?—A Plan for Reading the Bible through every year.—During January read Genesis and Exodus; February, read 1st Deuteronomy; March, to 15th of 1st Samuel; April, to 15th of 2nd Kings; May, to 15th of Isaiah; June, to 100th of Isaiah; July, to 50th of Isaiah; August, to 20th of Isaiah; September, to end of Old Testament; October, to end of Luke; November, to end of New Testament. About sixty-five to seventy-five pages per month, or about two pages for every week day, and four pages for every Sunday.

One of the above simple plan has rigidly adhered to it as a daily devotional exercise for twenty-four years, and feeling that this is the "Bread of Life," he is afraid now to discontinue it. Reader! paste this on the inner cover of your Bible.

WHAT THEY THOUGHT OF EACH OTHER.—Of Sidney Smith, Rogers the poet, recently deceased, once observed:

"Whenever the conversation is getting dull, he throws in some touch which makes it rebound and rise again as light as ever. There is this difference between Luttrell and Smith: he said 'Luttrell, you remember what good things he said—after Smith, you remember how much you laughed.'"

Sidney Smith's opinion of Rogers, is well exemplified in the favorite saying:

"When Rogers produces a couplet he goes to bed, and the knocker is tied, and straw is laid down, and the candle is made, and the answer to inquiries is, that Mr. Rogers is as well as can be expected."

TAXATION IN RUSSIA.—Several noble Russians are at present residing in Rome. According to a correspondent of the *New York Daily Advertiser*, one of them, who belongs to one of the most ancient families of the empire, remarked lately, in a social circle, that the Russian nobles were oppressively taxed to carry on the war, full fifty per cent. of their incomes being appropriated in that way by the government.

General Order.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, Jan. 28, 1856.

The Navy Department announces to the Navy and the Marine Corps the death of Commodore Charles Morris. He died at his residence, in the city of Washington, on Sunday afternoon, the 27th instant, at thirty minutes after 4 o'clock, in the 72d year of his age. He met his "inevitable hour" with the composure of a Christian.

Rarely, indeed, has a nation to mourn the loss of so distinguished, so useful, so good a citizen. His name is associated with the most brilliant achievements which have illustrated the American Navy. No fulsome eulogium can magnify it; no "storied urn" nor "animated bust" is needed to perpetuate it. The recollection of his gallant actions on the ocean, which cheered the drooping spirits of his countrymen at a memorable crisis in our history, will ever be gratefully cherished. As an administrative officer he was signally successful. His integrity was incorruptible; his diligence untiring. He was inflexibly just; he was candid and frank; he was an honest man.

As a mark of respect it is hereby ordered that the flags at the several Navy Yards and Stations, and on board of all vessels of the United States Navy in commission, be hoisted at half-mast, and thirteen minute-guns fired at meridian, on the day after the receipt of this order; and that the officers of the Navy and Marine Corps wear crapes on their left arm for thirty days.

J. C. DOBBIN, Secretary of the Navy.

An Original Letter of Mr. Webster.

When the *Lives of the Lord Chancellors* was published by Lord Campbell, some years ago, the distinguished author transmitted a copy of his work to the late Daniel Webster. In acknowledgment of the compliment our illustrious countryman addressed a letter to Lord Campbell, for a copy of which we are indebted to the kindness of his then Private Secretary, Mr. C. L. Linnam, to whom Mr. Webster presented the original draft, as an autograph souvenir. The letter is eminently characteristic of the lamented Statesman's style, principles and political sentiments, and will be read with especial interest by professional men and with pleasure by all others.

My Lord Campbell.—Some days of unexpected leisure have given me an opportunity of reading the *Lives of the Lord Chancellors*; and I feel irresistibly impelled to signify to your Lordship the pleasure and profit which the perusal of the volume has afforded me. The subject is a noble one, and has been treated according to its merits. The work may be read with advantage by all political and professional men. The lives which have most interested me are those of Ellmore and Bacon, Charles York, and the incomparable Somers. All must be grateful to see the title of Ellmore restored in the person of a worthy and accomplished descendant. As to Bacon, I agree with you that heretofore there has been no just history of his life. Indeed, I doubt whether we shall ever be able to trace the progress of his extraordinary mind. I think his conceptions were without regular progress. A man of his genius seems to be characterized by an extraordinary power. Although I do not imagine that he fully comprehended himself, if one may do so, or knew the full extent and consequences of his own conceptions, yet doubtless he felt conscious of his superiority to the age; and the manner to which he commends himself to the judgment of posterity, seems to be characterized by an extraordinary power. Although I do not imagine that he fully comprehended himself, if one may do so, or knew the full extent and consequences of his own conceptions, yet doubtless he felt conscious of his superiority to the age; and the manner to which he commends himself to the judgment of posterity, seems to be characterized by an extraordinary power. Although I do not imagine that he fully comprehended himself, if one may do so, or knew the full extent and consequences of his own conceptions, yet doubtless he felt conscious of his superiority to the age; and the manner to which he commends himself to the judgment of posterity, seems to be characterized by an extraordinary power.

The life of Charles York is a tale of deep pathos. One cannot read it without admiration, sympathy and heartfelt sorrow. We know not what the future might have been; but how bright that future looked up to the evil hour in which he took the seals! But the man of men is Somers. I assure you, my dear Lord, that I have his character as a contemplation and a study. I have collected and perused all that I could find concerning him; and I remember well that before I read the *Lives of the Lord Chancellors*, I had seen "Seven Golden Candlesticks," without tears, and rose from my chair and joined the shouts which conveyed the news of their triumph to the palace of the last of the Stuart Kings.

My Lord, excuse this intrusion. I have the honor of no acquaintance with your Lordship, beyond a casual introduction to the conversation of the House of Lords; but your biography of the great men who have had seats on the woolsack, and the manner in which it has been written, seem to bring congenial professional minds together, and to create a warmth of common feeling between the lawyers of the country, and the statesmen of the Atlantic; and Nottingham, and Hardwicke, and Eldon, as great teachers of equity jurisprudence, and Somers and Camden as intelligent and untiring assertors of public liberty, will hereafter be held in the same regard, my Lord, by your posterity and mine.

I am, with entire respect, your obedient servant,

DANIEL WEBSTER.

To the Right Hon. LORD CAMPBELL.

TRANSCRIPTION OF FIGURES.—THE FIGURE NINE.—We take the following from the Boston Courier. It is an arithmetical curiosity, interesting to the general reader and important to accountants:

The numeral nine has a certain peculiar property, a knowledge of which will be of importance to accountants and cash keepers. It is this: When an error has arisen from any transposition of figures, the difference between such transposed number of figures is uniformly a multiple of the numeral nine. For instance, suppose the sum of a column of figures to be 100, and the actual sum to be